GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:989
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2017
Irrigation Scam of Maharashtra
Somaiya Dr. Kirit

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has asked to look afresh into the case of Rs.1000 crore Irrigation Scam of Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the State Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) has give clean chit to the persons involved in the said scam and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ED has been probing the role of dummy companies who have siphoned off money and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether ACB has taken cognizance of the cost escalation and is going slow in the probe and if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of companies found involved in this scam along with the details of all findings and the present status of investigation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(a) to (c) The Enforcement Directorate is investigating Irrigation Scam of Maharashtra on the basis of FIR No. 123/2015 dated 25.08.2015. The State Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) has not given clean chit to any of the accused person involved in any offence. During the course of Open enquiry into KIDC and VIDC Projects so far seven criminal cases have been registered, as mentioned below.

(i) In case of the tender of Ghodazari Branch Canal RD 4.260 to 8.800, of Gosikhurd Irriagation Project under the VIDC, a case vide P.S. Sadar Nagpur City Cr. No. 3176/2016 u/s 13 (1) (c) (d), r/w 13 (2) of The Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 r/w Sect. 420, 465, 467, 468, 471, 109, 120 (b) of IPC has been registered on 23/2/2016 against the accused persons which include the then officials of VIDC and the partners of contracting firm. The chargesheet has been submitted in the competant court of law and the same is pending trial vide Special Criminal Case No. 23/2016.

(ii) Similarly, F.I.R No.3309/2016 has been registered at Police Station Sadar, Nagpur City on 30.03.2016 for the offences punishable under Sections 13(1) (c), (d), 13(2) of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and Sections 420, 468, 471, 120- B, 109 of IPC, against the then officials of VIDC and the contactors Joint Venture firm in the tendering process of the Canal under the Mokhabardi Lift Irriagition Scheme. The investigation of the case is almost over and a report has been submitted for obteting previous sanction for prosecution from the competent authority.

(iii) Similarly, offence has been registered at Police Station Sadar, Nagpur City on 30.4.2017 vide Cr.No. 203/17 under Sections 13(1) (c), (d), 13(2) of Prevention of Corruption Act and Sections 420, 120-B, 109 of IPC, against the then officials of V1DC and the contactor"s Joint Venture firm for the tender of "Construction of Earthwork, Structures & C.C. Lining to Paghora Main Canal of K.m. 8.52 to Km. 43.80 and Earth Work & Structures of Pendhari Branch Canal offtaking at R.D. 8090 M. of Paghora Main Canal (Stage I)" under the V.I.D.C. Nagpur.

(iv) Also, an offence has been registered at Police Station Sadar, Nagpur City on 30.4.2017 vide Cr.No. 204/17 under Sections 13(1) (c), (d), 13(2) of Prevention of Corruption Act and Sections 420, 120-B, 109 of IPC, by Anti Corruption Bureau, Nagpur against the then official of VIDC and the officials of contactor company for the tender of "Earth work and construction work of Gosikhurd Ghodazari Branch Canal from km 88-00 to 13-335" under the V.I.D.C. Nagpur.

(v) Another, an offence has been registered at Police Station Kopari, Thane City on 25.8.2015 vide Cr.No. 123/15 under Sections 13(1) (c), (d), 13(2) of Prevention of Corruption Act and Sections 420, 467,468,471,120-B, 109 of IPC, by Anti Corruption Bureau, Thane against the then officials of KIDC and the officials of contactor company for the tender of "Earth work and construction work of Balganga Dam Project Raigad. The Chargesheet is submitted to Spl.Court Thane vide C.C. NO 28/16.

(vi) An offence has been registered at Police Station Kopari, Thane City on 27.6.2016 vide Cr.No. 50/16 under Sections 13(1) (c), (d), 13(2) of Prevention of Corruption Act and Sections 418, 420, 465,468, 471,477(a), 120-B, 109 of IPC, by Anti Corruption Bureau, Thane against the then officials of KIDC and the officials of contactor company for the tender of "Earth work and construction work of Kalu Dam Project Thane.

(vii) Another offence has been registered at Police Station Kopari, Thane City on 03.9.2016 vide Cr.No. 84/16 under Sections 13(1) (c), (d), 13(2) of Prevention of Corruption Act and Sections 409, 420, 120-B, 109,34 of IPC, by Anti Corruption Bureau, Thane against the then officials of KIDC and the officials of contactor company for the tender of "Earth work and construction work of Kondhane

Project Raigad.

(d) The ACB has taken cognizance of the cost escalation issue and probing into it. The ACB has so far registered seven offences and chargesheets have been submitted to the trial court in two of the above cases.

(e) Matter is still under investigation. The issue shall be decided once trial is over.

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